IN THE CLAIMS:

Cancel claim 20, without prejudice.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.121, please amend claims 21, 29, 32, 41, and 44-46 as follows (see the accompanying marked-up version):

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21. (Amended) A pharmacological composition comprising:

- (A) at least one biologically-active agent; and
- (B) at least one carrier compound having the formula 2-HO-Ar-CONR⁸-R⁷-COOH

or a salt thereof, wherein

Ar is a phenyl substituted with at least one of C₁-C₅ alkyl, C₂-C₄ alkenyl, -F, -Cl, -OH, -SO₂, -COOH or -SO₃H;

R⁷ is selected form the group consisting of C₄ to C₂₀ alkyl, C₄ to C₂₀ alkenyl, phenyl, naphthyl, (C₁ to C₁₀ alkyl)phenyl, (C₁ to C₁₀ alkyl)phenyl, (C₁ to C₁₀ alkyl)naphthyl, (C₁ to C₁₀ alkenyl) naphthyl, phenyl (C₁ to C₁₀ alkyl), phenyl (C₁ to C₁₀ alkenyl), naphthyl (C₁ to C₁₀ alkyl) and naphthyl (C₁ to C₁₀ alkenyl);

R⁷ is optionally substituted with C₁ to C₄ alkyl, C₁ to C₄ alkenyl, C₁ to C₄ alkoxy, -OH, -SH and -CO₂R⁹ or any combination thereof;

R⁷ is optionally interrupted by oxygen, nitrogen, sulfur or any combination thereof;

 R^8 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1 to C_4 alkyl, C_1 to C_4 alkenyl, hydroxy, and C_1 to C_4 alkoxy; and

R⁸ is optionally substituted with C₁ to C₄ alkyl, C₁ to C₄ alkenyl, C₁ to C₄ alkoxy, -OH, -SH and -CO₂R⁹ or any combination thereof;

R⁹ is hydrogen, C₁ to C₄ alkyl, or C₁ to C₄ alkenyl;

with the proviso that the compounds are not substituted with an amino group in the position alpha to the acid group.

(Amended) The composition of claim 21, wherein the biologically active agent comprises at least one peptide, hormone, polysaccharide, mucopolysaccharide, carbohydrate, or lipid.

biologically active agent comprises human growth hormone, bovine growth hormone, growth hormone-releasing hormone, an interferon, interleukin-1, interleukin-II, insulin, heparin, low molecular weight heparin, calcitonin, erythropoietin, atrial naturetic factor, an antigen, a monoclonal antibody, somatostatin, adrenocorticotropin, gonadotropin releasing hormone, oxytocin, vasopressin, cromolyn sodium, vancomycin, desferrioxamine, parathyroid hormone, an antimicrobial, an antifungal agent or a combination thereof.

(Amended) A dosage unit form comprising

- (A) a pharmacological composition according to claim 21; and
- (B) (i) an excipient,
 - (ii) a diluent
 - (iii) a disintegrant
 - (iv) a lubricant,
 - (v) a plasticizer,

(vi) a colorant,

- (vii) a dosing vehicle, or
- (viii) any combination thereof.

(Amended) A method for preparing a pharmacological composition, said

method comprising mixing:

- at least one biologically-active agent; (A)
- (B) at least one carrier compound having the formula 20H-Ar-CONR⁸-R⁷-COOH

wherein

Ar is a substituted phenyl or naphthyl;

R⁷ is selected form the group consisting of C₄ to C₂₀ alkyl, C₄ to C₂₀ alkenyl, phenyl, naphthyl, (C1 to C10 alkyl)phenyl, (C1 to C10 alkenyl)phenyl, (C1 to C10 alkyl)naphthyl, (C1 to C₁₀ alkenyl) naphthyl, phenyl (C₁ to C₁₀ alkyl), phenyl (C₁ to C₁₀ alkenyl), naphthyl (C₁ to C₁₀ alkyl) and naphthyl (C1 to C10 alkenyl);

R⁷ is optionally substituted with C₁ to C₄ alkyl, C₁ to C₄ alkenyl, C₁ to C₄ alkoxy, -OH, -SH and -CO₂R⁹ or any combination thereof;

R⁷ is optionally interrupted by oxygen, nitrogen, sulfur or any combination thereof;

R⁸ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C₁ to C₄ alkyl, C₁ to C₄ alkenyl, hydroxy, and C₁ to C₄ alkoxy; and

R⁹ is hydrogen, C₁ to C₄ alkyl, or C₁ to C₄ alkenyl; with the proviso that the compounds are not substituted with an amino group in the position alpha to the acid group; and

(C) optionally a dosing vehicle.

(Amended) A method for administering a biologically-active agent to an animal in need of said agent, said method comprising administering orally to said animal a composition as defined in claim 21.

26. (Amended) A method for administering a biologically-active agent to a mammal in need of said agent, said method comprising administering orally to said mammal a composition as defined in claim 21.

REMARKS

Allowance is respectfully requested. Claim 21 has been rewritten in independent form. Claims 29, 32, 41, 45, and 46 have been amended to depend from claim 21, rather than claim 20. Claims 44 has been amended to include the limitations of original claim 21. Accordingly, claims 21-46 are pending and at issue.

In the June 18, 2002 Office Action, the Examiner noted that claims 21 and 23-28 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Claims 20, 22, and 29-46 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, for lack of enablement.

While applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner, in order to expedite prosecution of this application, claim 20 has been canceled without prejudice and claims 22 and